

Canadore International Student Semester Update

– Winter Semester 2021 –

Welcome Message

Dear International Students,

Welcome to Canadore College! We are very pleased to have you with us.

This newsletter serves to welcome you to the College at the start of the Winter 2021 semester, and also to provide you with several tips and resources that will help you feel right at home at our vibrant college.

Whether you are a new or returning international student, Canadore College welcomes you. While the past few months since the start of the pandemic have upended our lives in many ways, the staff and faculty at Canadore College have been impressed by the fortitude and resilience shown by members of our entire student body.

We are aware that our international students may face, at times, additional challenges and needs and the International department at Canadore College is there to assist you, in collaboration with other campus support services.

Should you require further information or wish to reach out and ask for guidance on any matter pertaining to international students, please do not hesitate to email international@canadorecollege.ca or consult the 'who to contact' page on the Canadore College international page or via the iCent App.

Best wishes, and welcome again to Canadore College! We hope this year will be positive and productive for all of you.

Canadore International

Special Events for International Students

Winter 2021 'Live' International Student Orientation

The International Department organized a special, live, International Student Welcome Orientation Event on February 1, 2021 from noon to 1pm. All new and returning international students were welcome to attend and notice was sent to students via email.

During this session, hosted by the International Department at Canadore College, we touched on matters such as immigration (including the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilot Program), health insurance, student services, and provided an introduction to the city and community of North Bay. We also had representatives from the local Chamber of Commerce and Multicultural Centre present to speak to our students.

Special Immigration Session for Canadore International Students

On January 19, 2021, Canadore College was pleased to offer a webinar for our international students on immigration-related matters. We invited Elizabeth Long, an immigration lawyer from Long Mangalji LLP, to present via webinar on topics such as maintaining status, conditions of working legally on and off-campus,

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qualifying for a PGWP, etc. Please email us if you would like a copy of the presentation slides at Jingxuan.Li@canadorecollege.ca

Recorded Orientation Sessions – Winter 2021

Several helpful orientation sessions have been organized for all students, with some specific to international students. These sessions have all been posted to the dedicated Orientation portal for Canadore College and accessible here: <https://www.canadorecollege.ca/get-started/winter-2021-orientation>

iCent App

A good place for international students to start their introduction to Canadore College and to the vibrant community of North Bay is the **iCent App**. Use of the iCent App is mandatory for international students at the College.

The iCent app includes access to the International Student Guide, links to our comprehensive FAQs, information on financial aid and student supports, student health insurance, and is also an important mechanism through which international students can receive important messages directly from the institution.

In other words, the iCent app is your one-stop-shop for all matters relevant to international students at Canadore College.

Immigration updates

Post-Graduate Work Permit Extension

The Post-Graduation Work Permit Program (PGWPP) allows students who have graduated from eligible Canadian designated learning institutions (DLIs) to obtain an open work permit to gain valuable Canadian work experience. On February 12, 2021, temporary measures put in place by the Government of Canada to extend international students' eligibility for PGWPs while studying online has been extended till December 31, 2021.

These measures will assist international students by ensuring that studies completed outside Canada will count towards a future PGWP, and by allowing international students to complete their entire program online from abroad and still be eligible for a PGWP. The measures apply to all international students who are enrolled in a PGWP-eligible program, and meet all other PGWP criteria. Further details on the IRCC announcement are available [here](#) and operational details [here](#).

Restoration of Status

The public policy to allow individuals who have lost their temporary residence status after January 30, 2020 to restore their status has been extended to August 31, 2021. Instead of the normal 90-day restoration period, an individual who had valid temporary resident status on or after January 30, 2020 but whose status expired on or before May 31, 2021, and have remained in Canada since, will have until August 31, 2021 to submit their restoration application

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Disclaimer: The International Department at Canadore College does not provide immigration or legal advice, and the contents of this correspondence should not be construed as such. Students are advised to consult IRCC or a qualified legal representative for advice on how to handle your personal immigration matters. To obtain information related to any immigration-related matter (including study and work permits), you can visit [IRCC's website](#).

Travelling to Canada and Quarantining

If you are an international student that is presently studying online but intends to travel to Canada in the near future, there are several matters you should be aware of. First and foremost, among these is the need to abide by strict quarantine rules.

Canadore College has implemented robust measures related to quarantining. These involve adhering to public health guidelines (federal, provincial and college guidelines). International students that seek to attend classes at Canadore College must be aware of the following:

Quarantine Steps

- You must submit an isolation plan via the iCent App which will be reviewed and approved by the International Dept at Canadore College;
- Successful submission of a quarantine plan will result in the release of a travel support letter;
- Beginning on February 22, 2021, in addition to the need to quarantine for a mandatory 14 days (which has been in place in Canada for over six months), there is also now a requirement for travelers to first book a stay in an approved hotel for 3 days during which time a student/traveler will be tested before being released to complete the remaining 11 days of their quarantine in accordance with an approved quarantine/isolation plan
- Details on processes to follow for the mandatory preliminary 3-day hotel stay are outlined here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice/mandatory-hotel-stay-air-travellers/list-government-authorized-hotels-booking.html>

Quarantine Helpdesk at Canadore College

Given the public health requirements that international students have been subject to in relation to travelling to Canada, since November 2020, Canadore College has set-up a dedicated team of advisors to assist international students with their travel and quarantine needs. A team of International Student Ambassadors can be reached, Monday to Friday, via email at Quarantine.Approval@canadorecollege.ca or by landline at +1 (705) 474-7600 ext 5425.

Please also consult the Government of Canada Guide for International Students Arriving in Canada from Abroad, a handy informative document, available here: https://cdn.agilitycms.com/canadore-college/support/3075_Covid-19-Guide-for-International-Students-factsheet_EN_FINAL_HR.pdf

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Health Insurance

All International Students at Canadore College benefit from inclusion in a health insurance plan with Guard.me, a leading provider of health insurance services to international students. This is mandatory and included as part of international students' ancillary fees.

Health Insurance Resources

A dedicated portal for Canadore College International students to access health insurance has been set-up and may be accessed here: <https://www.guard.me/canadoreinternational>

Guard.me International Student Health Insurance

Orientation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y9AFII8SiSE&feature=youtu.be>

Guard.me International Student Health Insurance Guide: <https://cdn.agilitycms.com/canadore-college/Attachments/support/international/Guard.me%20International%20Student%20Health%20Insurance%20Guide.pdf>

Opting Out of the Health Plan

If you are not in Canada, the Health Insurance program is not available to you and opting out is necessary in order to receive a credit to your Student Financial Account. The deadline to complete this opt out waiver was January 23, 2021.

Health Insurance Contact

For all questions and concerns related to health insurance at Canadore College, please contact Francine.Teles@canadorecollege.ca Please note that should you decide to travel to Canada, please contact Francine Teles (Francine.Teles@canadorecollege.ca) in the International Student Office prior to your arrival in Canada so appropriate health insurance coverage arrangements may be made or you.

Writing Assistance Help Desk is Here!

The International department would like to remind it's students of Canadore's free writing and English help services for all Canadore students.

As many of your fellow classmates have, please take advantage of this service if you need help with writing for any of your courses, APA, grammar, oral presentations, or English conversation.

To book an appointment, go to https://calendly.com/canadore_writing_help

→ Choose the help you need, set your time to Zoom with a teacher, and improve your English skills today!

For more information, please visit: <https://www.canadorecollege.ca/support/student-success-services/resource-centre>

Questions? E-mail Ksenia.gvozdikova@canadorecollege.ca

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Communication with Canadore College International Department

Correspondence Delays

We are aware that international students at Canadore College are experiencing delays in receiving a response to their queries. With several thousand international students registered in 2020-21, and with the pandemic resulting in greater uncertainty for almost all facets of life and study, reaching a staff member for help and support is more important than ever. However, the International Inbox (international@canadorecollege.ca) consistently receives over 150 emails a day and response times are impacted as a result. At the present time, we are attempting to respond to emails within 5-7 business days.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) by International Students

There is a wealth of resources available to international students online on the Canadore College website. These include our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Some of the topics available on our FAQs include: Admissions Requirements, Transferring to Canadore College, Health Insurance, Language Proficiency. Please do check these out here: <https://www.canadorecollege.ca/support/international/international-faq>

International Students – Who to Contact for Further Help

Based on requests from Canadore staff and faculty, we have put together contact sheets for international students and stakeholders. These can be found attached as well as on the Canadore College website in the [International](#) section.

- [North Bay Students](#)
- [Toronto Students](#)

Students: contacting more than one person will result in further delays and will not help you in any way. We urge you to review the details outlined above and contact the individual who can direct your query most appropriately.

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Lunar New Year 2021

Canadore College wishes its entire staff, faculty and student body a very special Lunar New Year 2021*! To celebrate, Canadore Students' Council together with Access and Inclusion hosted a special Lunar New Year Trivia Night on February 12th, 2021.



Lunar New Year is one of the most important holidays in China, and is also celebrated in countries with significant overseas Sinophone populations, including Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, and the Philippines to mark the beginning of a calendar year whose months are based on lunar cycles. The Lunar New Year festival was traditionally a time to honor deities as well as ancestors.